

Health and Medicine in 2003

Winter Conference

January 25, 2003

UMass Medical School, Worcester, MA

(snow date February 1, 2003)

9-9:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast

**9:30-9:45 Welcome— Marion Kilson and The Honorable
Harriette L. Chandler, State Senator**

9:45-11:00 Session I: Workshops

A. “Compassionate End of Life”

Presenter: Chris McCluskey, RN, VNA Care Network, Inc.

Information will be presented about health care decision-making at the time of serious illness, talking it over with your doctor and your family, appointing a health care agent to speak on your behalf regarding medical care if you are unable to do so yourself, and a summary of the work of the Central Massachusetts Partnership to Improve Care at the End of Life.

B. “How to Talk to Your Doctor”

Presenter: Dr. Trudi Feinstein, Dana Farber Cancer Institute

How women can talk to their doctors and become an active participant in their health care.

11:15-12:30 Session II: Workshops

C. “Cancer Research Today”

*Presenter: Deborah Forter, Executive Director of the
Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition*

Why me? Why us? If, as the July 2000 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine found, approximately 27% of breast cancer risk is due to inherited genes, what other factors figure into our lives and threaten us with this diseases?

D. “Young Women’s Health Issues”

Presenter: Virginia Graves, RN

Discuss the nature of health problems for young women. Examine contemporary research and theory for clues of prevention and treatment for young women's health. Discuss ways that communities, mentors, parents can support girls' growth and health today.

12:30-1:30 Lunch: Keynote Speaker - Jody Beldotti

"Offering a future to women who have experienced domestic violence: One Woman's Personal Story."

After having personally experienced domestic violence, Ms. Beldotti started the Yellow Brick Road Project in Rockland, MA. Yellow Brick Road is a program that opens the traditionally closed doorway between job training and working on the emotional components of abuse that can sabotage a woman trying to move forward. Jody Beldotti has appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show.

1:30-2:30 Session III: Workshop

E. "Bio-terrorism"

Presenter: Janet Fraser Hale, Professor, Graduate School of Nursing, University of Massachusetts, Worcester

Dr. Hale served 6 months in the Gulf War, is a Colonel and Chief Nurse for the 807th Medical Command based in Seagoville, Texas. In this position she oversees approximately 500 nurses in six hospitals in four states. Three of these hospitals are field facilities - one of which has personnel involved with the current initiative in Afghanistan. She now heads the team operating the Department of Corrections Medical Facilities for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Dr. Hale will speak to us on effects of bio-terrorism, efforts individuals and communities can undertake to protect against bio-terrorism, as well as treatment methods.

2:30-3:30 Session IV: Workshops

F. "Worcester Nursing Pipeline Consortium"

Presenter: Kristal Imperio, Outreach Coordinator, Graduate School of Nursing, University of Massachusetts, Worcester

The Worcester Nursing Pipeline Consortium (NPC) works in conjunction with the Worcester Pipeline Collaborative; NPC's mission is to recruit and advance nurses along the nursing education pipeline to meet the healthcare needs of Worcester and Central Massachusetts.

G. "State Board Meeting"

3:30-3:45 Finale

**Winter Conference Registration:
Registration due Monday, January 13, 2003**

Send registration form and check to: Linda Britt, Registrar, 16 Ellsworth Rd.,
Peabody, MA 01960
978-531-6116 or Lbritt@vnab.org

Registration for Winter Conference January 25, 2003 (snow date Feb. 1)

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____
E-mail _____

Session I Workshop (Circle one)

A. "Compassionate End of Life" B. "How to Talk to Your Doctor"

Session II Workshop (Circle one)

C. "Cancer Research Today" D. "Young Women's Health Issues"

Session III Workshop

E. "Bio-terrorism"

Session IV Workshop (Circle one)

F. "Worcester Nursing Pipeline" G. "Board Meeting"

_____ Enclosed is check for **\$35** payable to AAUW-MA (Includes Continental Breakfast and Lunch—Oriental Chicken Stir-fry, salad, roll, beverage and dessert)

**DIRECTIONS TO UMASS
MEDICAL SCHOOL**

UMass Memorial Hospital — University Campus
55 Lake Avenue North
Worcester, MA 01655-0002
Parking fee: \$4

FROM: I-290 East from I-90
Exit 21 Plantation Street - University Campus

To second traffic light. Left at South Road.
Second right to Outdoor VISITOR lot.

FROM: I-290 West from I-495

Exit 22 Main Street Shrewsbury
Right turn off ramp
Second left at light - This is Plantation Street.
To third traffic light - turn left - South Road.
Second right to Outdoor VISITOR lot.

FROM: Route 9 West

After crossing Lake Quinsigamond,
Immediate right to Lake Avenue North.
Left at South Road; Left to Outdoor VISITOR lot.

FROM: Route 9 East

Left at Plantation Street
Right at South Road; Right at Outdoor VISITOR lot.

**When walking from the parking lot, go straight ahead
to the dark, three-story building - UMass Medical School. We meet initially
in the Faculty Conference Room; all meeting rooms are on the first floor.**

State Board Meeting

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2003

Time: 2:45-3:45

Place: UMass Memorial Hospital University Campus

Who: State Officers and Branch Presidents

Preliminary Agenda

Welcome

M. Kilson

Minutes

K. Degnan

Treasurer's Report

L. Britt

Task Force on the Future Proposals

By-Law Amendment Proposals

Updates from EF, LAF, and Program Vice Presidents

President's Message
“Investing in the Future”

AAUW offers each of us the opportunity to invest in the future—our own and that of other women and girls.

Through our state programs and our public policy advocacy work, we ensure a more equitable future for ourselves and for others. Our winter meeting at the U. Mass Medical Center in Worcester will give us the opportunity to explore women's health issues and challenges; our spring convention in Boston will focus on creating economic and educational equity. Both programs will provide us with general knowledge as well as specific skills to enhance our professional and personal lives.

Following the November 2002 elections, threats to reproductive and civil rights have intensified in Boston and in Washington. As members of AAUW, we need to be informed both of pending legislation and of federal judicial nominations that may erode the hard-won gains of the recent decades. As individuals, we need to inform our representatives and our senators at state and national levels of our concern for reproductive choice and for judicial nominees who will uphold the civil and constitutional rights of all U.S. citizens. We need to invest in the future through our public policy advocacy.

AAUW's philanthropic corporations provide us with unique opportunities to invest in a more equitable future for all women and girls. The Educational Foundation's fellowship programs assist the career development of talented women around the world who will occupy significant positions in higher education, in public service, and in the professions. The Legal Advocacy Fund programs help to create a more welcoming and equitable collegiate environment for women students and staff by assisting courageous women to combat sex discrimination in higher education. By giving generously to both the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund during this season of light and renewal, you will be investing in the future.

I urge you to invest in your future and that of other women and girls by being an active participant in AAUW-MA programs, by being a public policy advocate, and by giving generously to the AAUW Educational Foundation and the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

Directory Changes

Communications Coordinator: Edwina Damstra, 1196 Pleasant St.,
Weymouth, MA 02189
781-331-7979
epsdamstra@yahoo.com

Karen Fischer, Boston Branch Treasurer, 617-738-0733(H)
fischerkg@yahoo.com

Brenda LaRouche, Attleboro Membership VP, Bmlarouche@attbi.com

Liz Fragola, Danvers-Topsfield Co-President, EKF226@attbi.com

AAUW Presents Opportunities

Hollie Bagley, Membership VP

This time of year we take inventory of our lives, resolve to change some aspects, and learn to appreciate what we have. One thing I have come to appreciate is my membership in AAUW. My membership in AAUW gives me great opportunities. It gives me the opportunity to make my voice heard. With more than 150,000 members nationwide, AAUW is a powerful voice for women and girls. AAUW gives me the opportunity to participate in a network that promotes equity worldwide. Women AAUW members are automatically members of the International Federation of University Women.

My membership in AAUW gives me the opportunity to hone my leadership skills by participating in AAUW's leadership development programs and by serving on local, state, and national committees. My personal and professional skills have developed as well.

Through membership in AAUW I am able to stay up to date on congressional action that affects women and their families and to share in the opportunities for public policy activism at the local, state, and national levels. AAUW gives me the opportunity to play a vital role in promoting education and equity in my community and schools through local community action projects.

Through my contribution to the Educational Foundation I feel proud to have a small part in the latest AAUW Educational Foundation research on vital issues affecting women and girls and the long lasting impact made by fellowship awards. AAUW gives me the opportunity to keep up to date on efforts to challenge sex discrimination in higher education through the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund. My membership and my contribution to LAF give me the opportunity to show support for these brave litigants.

Through my AAUW membership I enjoy exciting programs and opportunities for lifelong learning. I receive a subscription to *Outlook* and the *BayStater*. I can take part in national and regional conferences and workshops. I'm looking forward to AAUW-MA's winter and spring workshops and the national convention in June.

Most of all my AAUW membership gives me the opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of like-minded educated women--a nationwide network that I can tap into wherever I go. Without AAUW I would never have had the privilege of meeting and counting among my friends so many outstanding women.

So the next time a prospective member asks you what you get out of AAUW, think of the opportunities your AAUW membership has given you and share a few with her. Better yet, consider giving an AAUW membership to someone you care about so that she, too, can enjoy the opportunities AAUW presents. AAUW membership is half-price from January 1st through March 15th. Take advantage of the **Shape the Future** discount by inviting her to an AAUW sponsored program open to the public and gifting her "on the spot."

May each of you enjoy a healthy and prosperous New Year filled with AAUW opportunities.

Hollie Bagley, AAUW-MA Membership VP

781 749-6274 or holbagley@aol.com

Helpful Hits From Hollie

Dear Hollie,

I'm moving to another town. How can I transfer my branch membership?
Sincerely, On-the-Go

Dear On-the-Go,

Visit the Association website at www.aauw.org. Click on **Member Center**. Log in with your AAUW membership number (found on your *BayStater* label). Scroll down to **Quick Clicks**. Choose **Forms** and find the **Records Change Form** under **Forms for All Members**. The interactive Records Change Form lets you select Do Not Solicit, Deceased Member, Name/Address Change, Seasonal Address, Resigned From Branch, and Transfer Membership.

Dear Hollie,

My school is planning a program on sexual harassment. I would like them to use the AAUW research. Where can I get this information?

Thanks in advance, H. S. Teacher

Dear H. S. Teacher,

Did you know you can download the entire 52 page report, ***Harassment-Free Hallways: How to Stop Sexual Harassment in Schools*** or individual guides for Students, Parents or Schools by visiting www.aauw.org's **Member Center**? Look for the link under **This Just In**. AAUW hopes this informative, concise, and action-oriented resource will help you create harassment-free schools.

Dear Hollie,

Our branch is looking for some successful AAUW ideas. How can we get in touch with other branches who might have suggestions?

Yours truly, Wondering

Dear Wondering,

Log in to the **Member Center**. Choose the **Chat Rooms** link under **Quick Clicks**. Connect and ask your questions. Use this opportunity to gather information from your branch members by designating a specific time to connect. A virtual meeting!

Diversity Doings

Lois Sanford-Gallo, Chair

MARTIN LUTHER KING BREAKFAST

Join AAUW members at the Boston Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Breakfast on Monday, January 20, 2003. In years past we have had great fun, and enjoyed a program of gospel music, commentary and rousing speeches. Meet notables of the political, religious and Black community of Boston and the area as we gather to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. At this time, the price of the tickets have not been announced, but in the past they have been \$20 a person. Call Nancy Moore at 781-275-1018 for more information.

DIVERSITY TASK FORCE NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Diversity Task Force would like to have new members. We are in the process of developing new ways for branches to do diversity outreach. The task force members will be available to help with outreach, and we need your creative ideas. We will meet at my home in Concord. The first meeting is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 13 at 6:30 pm. A light supper will be served. Come join our already dynamic team who has been doing such a good job! Please call me, Lois Sanford-Gallo, Diversity Task Force Chair... 978-318-1996 Loiswgallo@aol.com

NORTH SHORE BRANCH PARTNERS WITH COALITION TO PROTECT CHOICE

As community advocacy work, the North Shore branch is collaborating with the newly formed Coalition to Protect Choice in planning a regional conference in May 2003.

The conference will focus on threats to reproductive health, expand knowledge about medical innovations, and engage professionals and activists in active dialogue. It is intended to help reduce the isolation of pro-choice individuals and to create a supportive environment for reproductive rights, access and options.

Through networking and mobilization, a broad spectrum of individuals can work together to achieve greater political effectiveness in confronting increasing legislative and judicial threats.

A keynote speaker, panel discussion and group workshops are planned for this whole day event. Individuals and organizations are invited to participate in the planning. Other founding partners are Health Quarters, Massachusetts NARAL, Planned Parenthood League MA, Abortion Access Project, and Cape Ann/North Shore NOW. Contact Patricia Ho, North Shore President, for more information.

SAVE THE DATE

AAUW-MA

Convention and Annual Meeting

April 26-27, 2003

Double Tree Guest Suites

400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, MA

The hotel is right off the Mass Pike on Soldiers Field Road, overlooking the Charles River; all rooms are "suites." A small block of suites is

being reserved for the nights of April 25 and 26 (\$129 + 12.45% tax/per night). To make a reservation call 1-800-222-Tree or the hotel directly at 617-783-0090 and ask for the "American Association of University Women Block." Reservations will be accepted until March 26.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW

International Relations

Sema M. Faigan

Loretta James, Director of International Affairs for AAUW, sent this message to IFUW Connections. "May I recommend a web site that deals particularly with the 0-6 year old crowd? It is called www.educarer.org ...and has been receiving visits from interested people from all over the world."

You are probably asking "And what is IFUW Connections?" This is another web site that I found particularly interesting, and I think that many of you will also find this a worthwhile browsing site. It is a way to tune in to "conversations" that go through an IFUW moderator, Mary Scott, and are then sent to those who have joined this network.

The IFUW Connections Network is the original IFUW e-mail network, first launched in 1995. It is a general network open to all members. Members share information and exchange ideas on a wide range of topics. Lately there have been messages from Pakistan and Viet Nam on issues of concern to women and girls. Try it.

Subscription address:
ifuw-connections-subscribe@ifuw.org
Network moderator:
Mary Scott - marys@ca.inter.net

Celebrate Choice

Lois Pulliam

AAUW members should gear up for a very special Roe v. Wade event on Wednesday, January 22, 2003, from 5:30 till 7:00 p.m. This date will mark the 30th anniversary of the historic Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade, which gave women the right of reproductive choice in consultation with their physicians.

You and your friends and neighbors (daughters and sisters, too!) can attend this event at St. Paul's Cathedral on Tremont Street, across from the Park Street T station in Boston. The keynote speaker will be Globe columnist Eileen McNamara, and there will be other special

guests to be announced later, so watch for updates.

Just as there is a very real threat to "unbalance" the Supreme Court with newly appointed justices, it is particularly important to let our support of reproductive choice come through loud and clear. While winter can make driving unappealing, remember that buses, trains and the T can simplify your transportation plans. Why not stay downtown with friends for an after-event supper together? I hope to see you there.

Lois Pulliam, AAUW/MA representative to
Massachusetts Coalition for Choice

Public Policy News...

Arline Broberg, Chair

Your action is needed on several critical bills which are pending on Capitol Hill---

- EDUCATION: Urge members of Congress to support funding education programs in S2766 which provides increased funding for improving teacher quality and money for disadvantaged schools;
- ABSTINENCE ONLY PROGRAMS: Urge members of Congress to level-fund all such programs;
- UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND: Urge members of Congress to support funding for the fund;
- U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Urge members of Congress to support the level of funding for USAID in the Senate bill;
- GLOBAL GAG RULE: Urge members of Congress to support repeal of the global gag rule that prohibits overseas organizations that receive U.S. international family planning funds from providing abortion services and from advocating for changes in abortion policy, even with their own private funds;
- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE AUTHORIZATION BILL: Urge members of Congress to lift the ban on overseas military abortions in the final FY09 DOD Authorization Bill;
- NEW REGULATION TO APPLY CHILD HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM TO FETUSES: Urge members of Congress to reject the Bush administration's attempts to undermine a woman's right to choose by passing S724 and HR2610;
- WELFARE REAUTHORIZATION: Urge members of Congress to support welfare reauthorization bills only if they increase access to education and training programs and protect civil and reproductive rights;
- CONVENTION OF THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN: Urge our senators to support ratification of CEDAW;
- CHARITABLE CHOICE: Urge our senators to oppose any charitable choice legislation that does not require all entities that receive federal funds to abide by anti-discrimination laws;
- HATE CRIME PREVENTION: Urge your members of Congress to support final passage of the Local Law Enforcement Act before the end of the 107th Congress.

For more detailed information on these bills, consult the AAUW-MA website (www.aauw-ma.org).

LAF Case Support Update ...

Florence Baturin, LAF VP

The news is not pleasant regarding the two LAF Cases against the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. At press time, Cheryl Vuolo (Vuolo v. UMass/Dartmouth) reported that her case still had not been settled. She was scheduled to go to mediation on December 4; a court date is scheduled for February 24, 2003. A report with results of mediation will be available at the winter meeting on January 25.

The other case (Dace v. UMass/Dartmouth) is also still active. Both Tish Dace and Cheryl Vuolo have faced numerous reschedulings and postponements of their cases. Dace is moving out of the country and will return for her trial which has been pushed back until March 24, 2003.

In November 2002, the LAF Board awarded additional funding to Areta Kowal-Vern (Vern v. Loyola). Many of you heard her speak at our 2002 State Convention.

Another litigant, Susan Whittaker (Whittaker v. N. Illinois University) spoke at the Regional Conference in October. After hearing her speak, New England members were generous in their support of the Legal Advocacy Fund. I am proud to report that gifts from Massachusetts amounted to \$665, representing 46% of funds contributed in Providence.

It's pretty discouraging stuff for these and other brave LAF Litigants. AAUW financial support, while not huge in terms of dollars compared to the costs of litigation, boosts the morale of the women funded by AAUW as they face huge legal fees and often a loss of self-esteem. And your personal support, such as attending court hearings or sending personal notes signed by you as a branch member, has also been deeply appreciated by Cheryl during some very depressing times.

For additional updates on LAF Cases, visit www.AAUW.org, click Legal Advocacy Fund, case updates or contact Florence Baturin, 781-862-5811.

- **Adelante Reading List**

Want to learn about the experiences of women who are *not* just like you? Check out the *Adelante* Books of the Month on the AAUW website! There are many wonderful treats in store for you if you do!

www.aauw.org/7000/adelante/02bd.html

- **New Tech-Savvy Girls video**

The Fairfax County Public Schools in collaboration with the AAUW Reston Herndon VA Branch and others has produced a video that "offers an invaluable resource for educators and parents who want to bridge the digital divide between girls and boys." Although the video ordinarily costs \$25, AAUW members can get it at a special discount of \$15 by going to

www.fcps.edu/fairfaxnetwork/savvy/aauw.shtml

Congratulations to Patricia Ho

We are so very proud to announce that Patricia Ho, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) MA North Shore Branch President, was selected by the *Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence* to receive the 2002 *Rev. Cheng Imm Tan Award*. The *Rev. Cheng Imm Tan Award* is given to one who demonstrates personal courage and commitment in creating a safe place for all Asian women. The award is named after the Asian Task Force's founder, Rev. Cheng Imm Tan who is an activist, a Unitarian Universalist community minister, and currently the Director of the Mayor's Office of New Bostonians.

The mission of the *Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence* is to eliminate family violence and to strengthen Asian families and communities. Patricia was chosen unanimously and received the award on November 3, 2002. Patricia has always believed in giving part of oneself, however little, back to the community. In addition to her professional work, volunteer activities have been a priority in her life. Her background, education, varied teaching and travel experiences have helped to formulate her goals of enhancing, in some way, the lives of other women and girls.